

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (original) A storage and retrieval unit for storing and removing from store containers (2) or pallets belonging to a rack, having at least one endless drive element (13) which is led around two wheels (11, 12) arranged at a distance from each other and has an upper run and a lower run and on which at least one gripping means (40, 41) for gripping a container (2) or a pallet is arranged, characterized in that the gripping means (40, 41) is formed in the manner of tongs and is guided in such a way that it carries out a lateral movement in order to grip the container (2) or the pallet.

2. (original) The storage and retrieval unit as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the gripping means (40, 41) has two gripping arms (18, 24; 18', 24').

3. (original) The storage and retrieval unit as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the gripping arms (18, 24; 18', 24') are mounted such that they can be pivoted.

4. (original) The storage and retrieval unit as claimed in claim 3, characterized in that the gripping arms (18, 24; 18', 24') are mounted on a loadbearing rod (16).

5. (currently amended) The storage and retrieval unit as claimed in ~~one of claims 2 to 4~~ claim 2, characterized in that the movement is transmitted from one gripping arm (18, 28') to the other gripping arm (24, 24') by means of a tie rod (16).

6. (currently amended) The storage and retrieval unit as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, characterized in that the gripping means (40, 41) is actuated by a guide rail (19, 19').

7. (currently amended) The storage and retrieval unit as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1, characterized in that two gripping means (40, 41) are provided, which are each actuated by a guide rail (19, 19').

8. (currently amended) The storage and retrieval unit as claimed in ~~one of claims 2 to 7~~ claim 2, characterized in that the gripping arms (18, 24; 18', 24') in each case have a gripping finger (35) at a free end.

9. (currently amended) The storage and retrieval unit as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1, characterized in that the gripping means (40, 41) have at least one rod (17) which is positioned such that it pushes the container (2) as the latter is deposited.

10. (currently amended) The storage and retrieval unit as claimed in claim 9, characterized in that the rod (17) is a tie rod which transmits a movement.

11. (new) The storage and retrieval unit as claimed in claim 3, characterized in that the movement is transmitted from one gripping arm (18, 28') to the other gripping arm (24, 24') by means of a tie rod (16).

12. new) The storage and retrieval unit as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that the movement is transmitted from one gripping arm (18, 28') to the other gripping arm (24, 24') by means of a tie rod (16).

13. (new) The storage and retrieval unit as claimed in claim 12, characterized in that the gripping means (40, 41) is actuated by a guide rail (19, 19').

14. (new) The storage and retrieval unit as claimed in claim 11, characterized in that the gripping means (40, 41) is actuated by a guide rail (19, 19').

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15. (new) The storage and retrieval unit as claimed in claim 14, characterized in that two gripping means (40, 41) are provided, which are each actuated by a guide rail (19, 19').

16. (new) The storage and retrieval unit as claimed in claim 13, characterized in that two gripping means (40, 41) are provided, which are each actuated by a guide rail (19, 19').

17. (new) The storage and retrieval unit as claimed in claim 16, characterized in that the gripping arms (18, 24; 18', 24') in each case have a gripping finger (35) at a free end.'

18. (new) The storage and retrieval unit as claimed in claim 15, characterized in that the gripping arms (18, 24; 18', 24') in each case have a gripping finger (35) at a free end.

19. (new) The storage and retrieval unit as claimed in claim 18, characterized in that the gripping means (40, 41) have at least one rod (17) which is positioned such that it pushes the container (2) as the latter is deposited.

20. (new) The storage and retrieval unit as claimed in claim 17, characterized in that the gripping means (40, 41)

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have at least one rod (17) which is positioned such that it pushes the container (2) as the latter is deposited.